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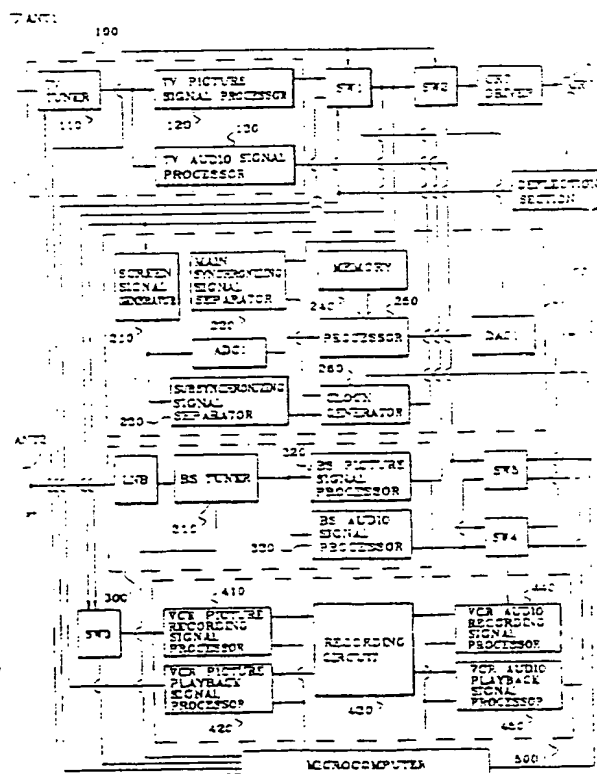
(71) Applicant : SAMSUNG ELECTRONICS CO.,
LTD.
416 Maetan-Dong Kwonseon-ku
Suwon-city, Kyungki-do 440-370 (KR)

(72) Inventor : Lee, Jun Ho, GA-714, Taiyang Apt.
Tapshimni-Dong
Tongdaemun-ku, Seoul (KR)

(74) Representative : Read, Matthew Charles et al
Venner Shipley & Co. 20 Little Britain
London EC1A 7DH (GB)

(54) Television set.

(57) A television set includes a first tuner (110) for receiving terrestrial broadcast television signals, a second tuner (310) for receiving satellite broadcast television signals, a video cassette recorder (500) and a picture-in-picture circuit (200). Switching means (SW1 ... SW5) are arranged to enable the outputs of the first tuner (110), the second tuner (310) or the VCR (500) to be used to create the main screen display on a CRT. The switches (SW1 ... SW5) also enable an output from a tuner (110, 310) or the VCR (500), not forming the main screen, to form a sub-screen under the control of the picture-in-picture means (200). Thus, the picture-in-picture means (200) does not require its own dedicated tuner.



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The present invention relates to a television set.

There is a trend for consumer video products to become more and more complex. In particular, there is a tendency for apparatus performing related functions to be combined within a single product. In the case of television, related apparatus such as a satellite broadcast tuner or a video cassette recorder may be incorporated in a television set.

A combination television set is disclosed in JP-A-63299582.

Television sets are known which include a broadcast satellite decoder, a picture-in-picture (PIP) facility and a video cassette recorder (VCR). However, separate tuners have been needed for the satellite broadcast decoder, the picture-in-picture facility and for receiving terrestrial broadcast television.

This results in a degree of complexity which is not appropriate for a mass-produced consumer product.

It is an aim of the present invention to overcome this disadvantage of the prior art.

According to the present invention there is provided a television set comprising: a first tuner for receiving terrestrial broadcast television signals; a second tuner for receiving satellite broadcast television signals; a video recording means for recording and playing back television signals; a picture-in-picture means; and switching means arranged whereby:

- (a) the outputs of the tuners and the video recording means can be selected for display of the respective television picture;
- (b) the outputs of the tuners can be selected for recording by the video recording means; and
- (c) the outputs of the tuners and the video recording means can be selected for application to the picture-in-picture means for displaying the respective television picture within another television picture.

The switching means may be controlled by a single microcomputer.

An embodiment of the present invention will now be described, by way of example, with reference to the accompanying drawing which is a block diagram of a television set according to the present invention.

Referring to the Figure, a television set comprises a television signal processing section 100 for processing television signals from a television tuner 110; a PIP signal processing section 200 for producing a PIP signal which is to be displayed as a subscreen; a broadcast satellite television (BS) signal processing section 300 for processing BS signals from a BS tuner; a VCR signal processing section 400 for processing a VCR signal; a microcomputer for controlling each system block; switches SW1 ... SW5 for respectively selecting picture and audio signals for the television main screen and subscreen under the control of the microcomputer.

The television signal processing section 100 further includes a television tuner 110 for receiving a tel-

evision signal from an antenna ANT1, television picture and audio signal processors 120 and 130 for providing television picture and audio signals.

The PIP signal processing section 200 includes screen signal generator 210 for converting a subscreen signals into luminance (Y) and colour difference (R-Y) and (B-Y) signals; an analogue to digital converter ADC1; a main synchronizing signal separator 220 for obtaining a synchronizing signal for the main screen; a processor 240 for processing a subscreen signal, digitised by the analogue to digital converter ADC1; a memory 250 for storing a signal for the subscreen, digitised by the analogue to digital converter ADC1; a clock generator 260 for causing the subscreen, stored in the memory 250, to have a predetermined location and size within the main screen, based on outputs from the main and subsynchronizing signal separators 220 and 230, and a digital to analogue converter DAC1 for converting a signal output by the processor 240 into an analogue signal. Suitable control signals are applied to the memory 250 from the clock generator 260.

The BS signal processing section 300 comprises a low noise block downconverter LNB for downconverting a BS signal which is received by BS antenna ANT2; a BS tuner 310 for detecting a signal after channel tuning of the BS signal from the LNB; a BS picture signal processor 320 for processing BS signals from the BS tuner 310; a BS audio signal processor 330 for processing BS audio signals from the BS tuner 310.

The VCR signal processing section 400, for processing the VCR signal, includes a VCR picture recording signal processor 410 capable of processing signals desired to be recorded; a VCR picture playback signal processor 420 for processing and outputting played back picture signals; a recording section 430 for recording picture and audio signals; a VCR audio recording signal processor 440 for processing audio signals to be recorded by the VCR; a VCR audio playback signal processor 450 for processing played back audio signals from the VCR.

In addition, the TV main screen selection switch SW1, coupled to the TV signal processing section 100, the BS signal processing section 300, the VCR signal processing section 400 and the microcomputer, is switched by a signal from the microcomputer. This causes a signal to be displayed on the main TV screen by selecting a signal from among the television picture signal, the BS picture signal and the played back VCR picture signal.

The subscreen selection switch SW2, coupled to the TV main screen selection switch SW1, the PIP signal processing section 200 and the microcomputer, makes a selection from among main screen signal from the TV main selection switch SW1 and a subscreen signal which is output from the digital to analogue converter DAC1 by a clock signal from the clock

generator 260. This creates the PIP screen, displayed within the television main screen, by selecting the main screen signal or the subscreen signal in response to the clock signal, generated by the clock generator 260, causing the PIP function to be ON or OFF according to a control signal from the microcomputer, when PIP is enabled by the microcomputer.

The VCR recording signal selection switch SW3, coupled to the main television and subscreen selecting switches SW1, SW2 and the microcomputer, selects a signal to be recorded by the VCR from the television main or subscreen signals under the control of the microcomputer.

The audio output/recording selection switch SW4, coupled to the television signal processing section 100, the BS signal processing section 300 and the microcomputer, is a switch for selecting audio signals to be recorded by the VCR and for providing the audio signals of the television main and subscreens to a loudspeaker SP under the control of the microcomputer.

The audio output switch SW5, coupled to the television signal, the BS signal and the VCR signal processing sections 100, 300, 400 and the microcomputer is a switch for providing audio signal of the television main and subscreens to loudspeaker SP under the control of the microcomputer.

The operation of the above-described television set will now be described. A television signal from the television tuner 110 is tuned and applied to the television main screen selection switch SW1 via the television picture signal processor 120. A BS signal from the BS antenna ANT2 is converted to a lower intermediate frequency after amplification by the low noise block downconverter LNB. This signal is channel tuned by the BS tuner 310 and demodulated as a composite video signal. This becomes the BS picture signal after processing by the BS picture signal processor 320 and is applied to the television main screen selection switch SW1.

When the television main screen signal is selected to be a television picture signal from the television picture signal processor 120 by the microcomputer and the television subscreen signal is selected to be a BS picture signal. The BS picture signal is dematrixed to yield luminance (Y) and colour difference (R-Y) and (B-Y) signals after the screen signal generator 210 according to the switching operation of the television main screen selection switch SW1.

The subscreen selection switch SW2 is switched by the output from the clock generator 260, so that either the television signal or the signal from the digital to analogue converter DAC1 are fed to the CRT driver. The switching of the subscreen selection switch is such that the BS picture appears within the television picture on the CRT.

Since, the subscreen picture is derived from the signal tuned by the tuner, which is not supplying the

main picture, the PIP signal processing section 200 does not need a dedicated tuner.

Signals selected to be the main screen signal and the subscreen signal are supplied to the television main screen selection switch SW1 and when it is desired to record the subscreen while watching the main screen, the subscreen signal is recorded by placing the VCR recording signal selection switch SW3 in the appropriate state.

When it is desired to record the main screen while watching the subscreen, the main screen signal is selected by the VCR recording signal selection switch SW3 and recorded through the VCR picture recording signal processor 410.

Either the BS picture signal or the television picture signal may be selected to be the main screen signal; the other picture signal being the subscreen signal. The selection is effected by the main and subscreen selection switches SW1 and SW2 under the control of the microcomputer.

A played back VCR picture signal is coupled to the main screen selection switch SW1 via the VCR picture playback signal processor 420. If the VCR playback picture signal is to be the main picture signal, the VCR picture playback signal is applied to the PIP signal processing section 200 for the extraction of synchronizing signals and to the main picture selection switch SW1. The television picture may form the subscreen picture signal.

In the case of audio signals, TV audio signals, which are processed by the television audio signal processor 130, and the BS audio signals, which are processed by the BS audio signal processor 330, are selected by the audio output/recording selection switch SW4 under the control of the microcomputer, whereby the desired audio signal is output to the loudspeaker SP and the audio signal to be recorded, corresponding to picture signal being recorded by the VCR, to the audio recording signal processor 410. When it is required to output audio signal, which have been previously recorded by the VCR, audio signals are output by the audio output switch SW5 under the control of the microcomputer.

The microcomputer controls the switching of each switch SW1 ... SW5, whereby picture and audio signals of a main screen and a subscreen are selected, and a PIP signal is created, in response to the state of the television main and subscreen selection switches SW1 and SW2, by the PIP signal processing circuit 200, so that a tuner for the PIP facility is not needed.

As described above, a television set according to the present invention has the advantages of simple circuitry and low cost.

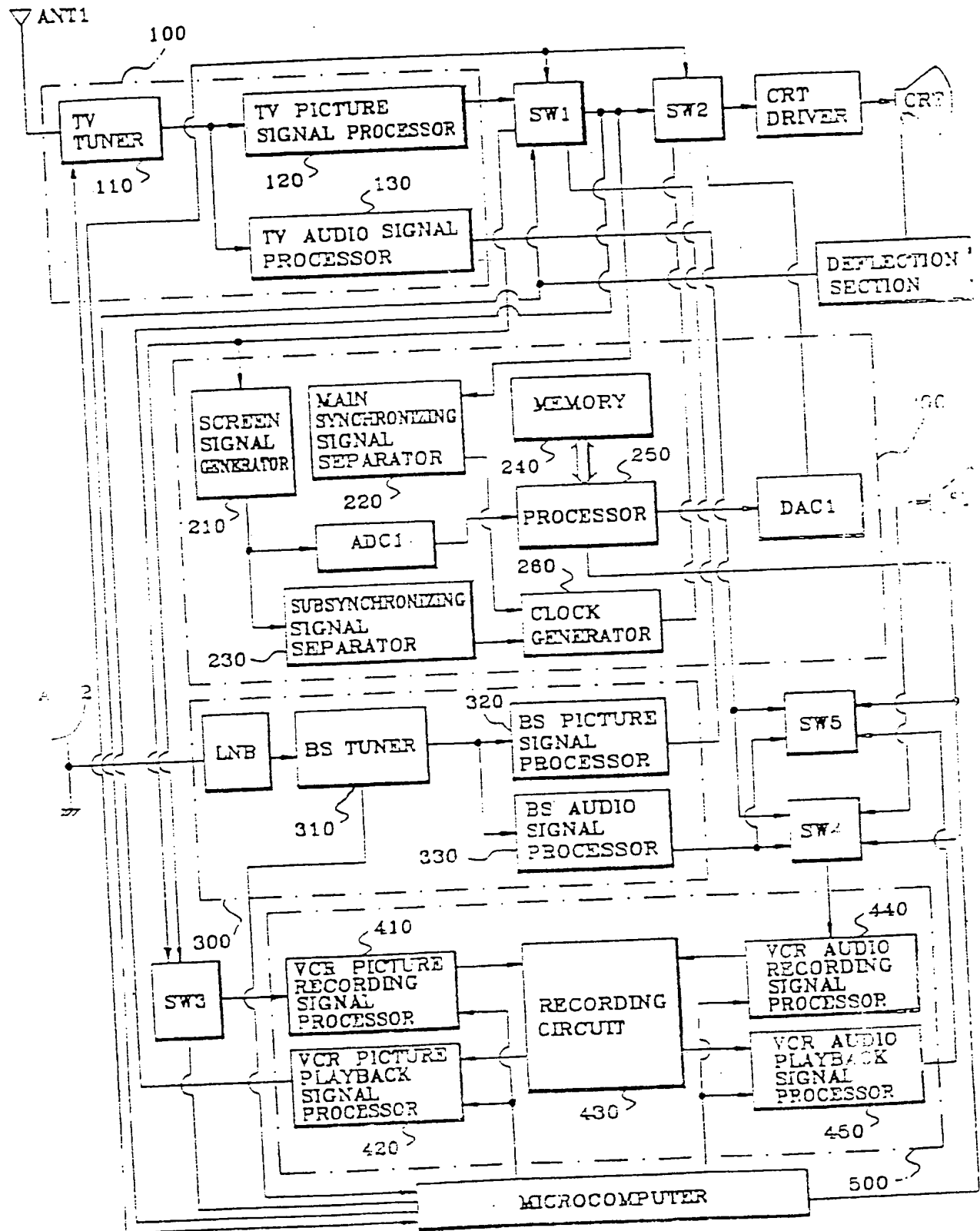
The invention is in no way limited to the embodiment described hereinabove. Various modifications of disclosed embodiment as well as other embodiments of the invention will become apparent to per-

sons skilled in the art upon reference to the description of the invention. It is therefore contemplated that the appended claims will cover any such modifications or embodiments as fall within the scope of the invention.

Claims

1. A television set comprising:
 - a first tuner (110) for receiving terrestrial broadcast television signals;
 - a second tuner (310) for receiving satellite broadcast television signals;
 - a video recording means (500) for recording and playing back television signals;
 - a picture-in-picture means (200); and
 - switching means (SW1 ... SW3) arranged whereby:
 - (a) the outputs of the tuners (110, 310) and the video recording means (500) can be selected for display of the respective television picture;
 - (b) the outputs of the tuners (110, 310) can be selected for recording by the video recording means (500); and
 - (c) the outputs of the tuners (110, 310) and the video recording means (500) can be selected for application to the picture-in-picture means (200) for displaying the respective television picture within another television picture.
2. A television set according to claim 1, including a single microcomputer for controlling the switching means (SW1 ... SW3).
3. A television receiver with built-in type of multiple function having television signal processing means for processing a signal from a television tuner, PIP signal processing means for processing PIP signal, BS signal processing means for processing BS signal, and VCR signal processing section for processing VCR signal, comprising:
 - a microcontroller for controlling each system section, television main screen selection means connected to said television signal processing means and BS picture signal processing means and VCR signal processing means and said microcomputer, for displaying and selecting a signal among TV picture signal and BS picture signal and VCR playback signal according to the control of said microcomputer,
 - television subscreen selection means connected to said television main screen selection means and PIP signal processing means and said microcomputer, for displaying PIP screen against television main screen selected by said selection

means according to the clock of a clock generator located in said PIP signal processing means and by the control of said microcomputer, audio output and recording signal selection means connected to said television signal processing means and BS signal processing means and said microcomputer, for selecting an audio signal to be recorded to VCR and for providing an audio signal of TV main and subscreen according to the control of said microcomputer, audio output means connected to said television signal processing section and BS signal processing means and VCR signal processing means and said microcomputer, for providing an audio signal of television main and subscreen according to the control of said microcomputer.





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EUROPEAN SEARCH REPORT

Application Number

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DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT			
Category	Citation of document with indication, where appropriate, of relevant passages	Relevant to claim	CLASSIFICATION OF THE APPLICATION (Int. Cl.5)
Y	US-A-4 845 564 (HAKAMADA ET AL.)	1	H04N5/45
A	* column 1, line 9-12 * * column 2, line 46 - column 3, line 37; figure 1 * * column 4, line 36 - column 6, line 30 *	2,3	
D,Y	PATENT ABSTRACTS OF JAPAN vol. 13, no. 136 (E-737)5 April 1989 & JP-A-63 299 582 (FUJITSU GENERAL LTD.) 7 December 1988 * abstract *	1	H04N
D,A	---	3	
A	DE-B-2 813 393 (NORDDEUTSCHE MENDE RUNDfunk KG) * column 1, line 59 - column 2, line 67; figure 1 *	1,3	H04N
A	PATENT ABSTRACTS OF JAPAN vol. 15, no. 195 (E-1069)20 May 1991 & JP-A-30 50 974 (FUJITSU GENERAL LTD) 5 March 1991 * abstract *	1,3	
A	PATENT ABSTRACTS OF JAPAN vol. 14, no. 461 (E-987)5 October 1990 & JP-A-21 86 886 (MATSUSHITA ELECTRIC IND. CO.,LTD.) 23 July 1990 * abstract *	1,3	H04N
A	EP-A-0 339 517 (SONY CORPORATION) * column 1, line 5 - line 13 * * column 3, line 43 - column 4, line 29; figure 1 *	1,3	
A	US-A-4 031 548 (KATO ET AL.) * abstract; figure 1 *	1-3	
-/--			
The present search report has been drawn up for all claims			
Place of search THE HAGUE		Date of completion of the search 20 AUGUST 1993	Examiner FUCHS P.
CATEGORY OF CITED DOCUMENTS		T : theory or principle underlying the invention E : earlier patent document, but published on, or after the filing date D : document cited in the application L : document cited for other reasons & : member of the same patent family, corresponding document	
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DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT

Category	Citation of document with indication, where appropriate, of relevant passages	Relevant to claim	CLASSIFICATION OF THE APPLICATION (Int. Cl.5)
A	IEEE INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE ON CONSUMER ELECTRONICS vol. ., 8 June 1990, ROSEMONT (US) pages 84 - 85 MASASHI HONZAWA ET AL. 'NEW PICTURE IN PICTURE LSI WITH ENHANCED FUNCTIONALITY FOR HIGH PICTURE QUALITY' * page 84, paragraph 1; figure 2 *	3	
P,X	WO-A-9 209 170 (FERGUSON LTD.) * page 2, line 15 - page 3, line 35; figure 1 *	1	
			TECHNICAL FIELDS SEARCHED (Int. Cl.5)
The present search report has been drawn up for all claims			

Place of search

THE HAGUE

Date of completion of the search

20 AUGUST 1993

Examiner

FUCHS P.

CATEGORY OF CITED DOCUMENTS

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